

ite Data Collection Efforts on Human Trafficking FACT SHEET

FACT SHEET: State Data Collection Efforts on Human Trafficking

Background

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is authorized to collect data on human trafficking, evaluate the impact of anti-trafficking programs, and conduct trafficking-related research pursuant to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 and its subsequent reauthorizations, and the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014. The Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) assessed state efforts to collect data on human trafficking and to assist victims of trafficking to inform the HHS Human Trafficking Data Collection Project. The project examines current data collection practices, data standards, and technologies used for human trafficking data collection for the purposes of understanding human trafficking victimization and service needs. More information is available at: www.acf.hhs.gov/otto/research-policy/data-collection

State Efforts: Data Collection and Victim Services

OTIP assessed whether a state had legislation mandating human trafficking data collection; whether there was a state plan to collect the data; and whether the state was mandated to provide direct services to victims of trafficking. As state leaders and organizations recognize the importance of data collection to inform strategies to reduce and prevent trafficking, a trend has emerged of states passing legislation designating an entity to collect trafficking data and/or an entity to monitor victim assistance activities. In the absence of legislation, some states have developed a strategic plan—typically initiated by the state attorneys general—to collect human trafficking data. This appears to be an effective alternative, especially when combined with a legislative mandate for a state entity to provide or ensure the provision of direct services to victims or survivors of trafficking.

States fell within one of four categories:

- States with legislation or a plan to collect human trafficking data and provide services to victims;
- 2. States that only have legislation or a plan to collect human trafficking data;
- States that only have legislation on providing services to victims of trafficking, or
 States with no legislation or plan to collect trafficking data or provide services to victims.

Overall, nineteen (19) states have legislation or a strategic plan to collect data on human trafficking and to provide services to victims of trafficking. An additional eleven (11) states have only legislation or a plan to collect trafficking data, while nine (9) states have only legislation on providing services to victims

Learn more at www.acf.hhs.gov/otip.

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trafficking data and/or an entity to monitor victim assistance activities. In the absence of legislation, some states have developed a strategic plan—typically initiated by the state attorneys general—to collect human trafficking data. Learn more about state data collection efforts (PDF).

Files

• PDF Fact Sheet: State Data Collection Efforts on Human Trafficking (303.93 KB)